

Poverty War Plans Drawn

FRE JAN 27 1965

A new super agency commissioned to coordinate the federal War on Poverty program in Alameda County has been created by the mutual agreement of 23 independent governmental units.

Its name is the Economic Opportunity Agency of Alameda County.

It was created in ceremonies in the Alameda County Administration Building yesterday and got its baptism of fire a few moments later when its temporary chairman issued a statement criticizing four cities which chose to snub the new agency.

County Supervisor Robert Hannon, who acted as chairman in the contract-signing ceremonies

and who was elected chairman of the agency's Organizing Committee, said cities refusing to participate are "short-sighted and provincial."

He added that he will continue to encourage those cities to "forget local politicking and remember the needs of the poor."

County officials said four cities have refused to join in the agreement: Oakland, Berkeley, Alameda and San Leandro.

Three other cities, Hayward, Livermore and Pleasanton, did not sign the agreement yesterday. But county spokesmen said those three have indicated they will eventually sign up.

Oakland Mayor John Houlihan has termed the formation of a

countywide agency in the War on Poverty a "power grab" and says Oakland is going ahead with its own Anti-Poverty program.

The Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 provides that \$947 million be spent throughout the United States to combat poverty. California expects to be awarded from \$18 to \$43 million of that total.

The money is to be used in an assortment of programs such as job training for the unskilled, work-study programs for college students, basic adult education programs, aiding needy children, providing housing and other programs for migrant workers and providing loans to small

businesses.

Local governmental units are to propose their own programs for combatting poverty.

Hannon said the new Economic Opportunity Agency of Alameda County will serve as a coordinating and advisory agency for the local governments, stimulating local community action and providing technical assistance when requested.

He said the agency will not infringe upon the freedom of local communities to develop their own programs and receive and spend their own money.

Governmental units which

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signed the joint exercise of powers agreement to create the new agency are:

The state Office of Economic Opportunity, Alameda County, Albany, Emeryville, Fremont, Newark, Union City, Alameda County School Department, Alameda Unified School District, Alvarado School District, Castro Valley School District, Decoto School District, Fremont Unified School District, Hayward Unified School District, Livermore School District, Murray School District, Piedmont Unified School District, San Leandro Unified School District, San Lorenzo Unified School District, Peralta Junior College District, South County Joint Junior College District, East Bay Regional Park District and Hayward Area Recreation District.

Francis B. Jeffrey, chief administrative officer of the Youth Opportunities Board, was designated by county supervisors as "interim staff member" for the new agency.

The Youth Opportunities Board was created in 1962 by the county, City of Oakland, Oakland Unified School District and the state. The joint powers agreement for the new Economic Opportunity Agency contemplates that the powers and responsibilities of the Youth Opportunities Board will eventually become a separate function of the new agency.

A delegate from each of the member governmental units will become a member of the board of directors of the new agency. In addition there will be appointments from the public at large.

The new agency is to meet next at 4 p.m. Feb. 9 to select additional directors.

County to Sign Up Agency For Poverty War Tuesday

TR 5C JAN 24 1965

The new Economic Opportunity Agency of Alameda County will be signed into existence in ceremonies in the county administration building Tuesday.

It is the joint governmental

agency which will coordinate the federal War on Poverty program in Alameda County.

Banding together in the new agency are some 30 local government units, including school boards and cities, plus the state and county governments.

John D. Murphy, chairman of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, will sign a joint powers agreement on behalf of the county. Signing for the state will be Dr. Paul O'Rourke, coordinator of the California anti-poverty program. Other agen-

cies will be represented by mayors, city councilmen, school board members and administrators.

The agency will be governed by a board of directors drawn from the participating agencies, welfare organizations and the

public at large.

The joint powers agreement, drafted by a committee headed by Supervisor Robert Hannon, provides that local governmental units will have autonomy over their own anti-poverty programs but will share information about

the programs through the county-wide Economic Opportunity Agency.

The ceremonies for signing the joint powers agreement will be conducted at 2:30 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors' chambers.

Anti-Poverty

Group Will

IRE FEB 10 1965

Map Plans

The organizing committee of the Alameda County Economic Opportunity Agency will meet at 4 p.m. tomorrow to map plans as to how best to utilize its share of the \$18 million to \$43 million that California expects to get under President Lyndon B. Johnson's "War on Poverty" program.

The committee as it stands now has 46 members on its board of directors, and many others—possibly as many as 100—are expected to be named to a board of advisers.

Thirty-six of the 46 directors are from governmental agencies which will participate in administration of the program.

The other 10, not yet named, will be installed on an at-large basis. They will represent the Council of Social Planning of Alameda County, the Central Labor Council, the Alameda Chamber of Commerce, the Mexican-American Unity Council, the Alameda County Negro Leadership Council, the Alameda County Human Relations Commission, three members selected by the Advisory committee, and a representative of parochial schools.

'Super Agency' Post to J

IRV FEB 12 1965

Francis Jeffrey, chief administrative officer of the Youth Opportunities Board of Alameda County, is to also serve as executive secretary of the new Economic Opportunity Agency of Alameda County.

An offer from the Alameda County Board of Supervisors to loan Jeffrey to the agency as executive secretary was accepted at the agency's organizational meeting yesterday.

The Economic Opportunity Agency of Alameda County is the new super agency commissioned to coordinate federal War on Poverty programs in the county.

A joint powers agreement creating the agency has been signed by nine cities, 23 school districts, two park districts, the county and the State of California.

Representatives of each of the agencies met in an organi-

zational session in the Alameda County Administration Building yesterday afternoon.

Acceptance of Jeffrey as executive secretary was unanimous. He will continue to serve as chief administrative officer of the Youth Opportunities Board.

He is presently paid \$11,400 a year by the county government in that capacity. His salary will remain unchanged.

County Supervisor Robert Hannon, acting chairman of the Economic Opportunity Agency, said it's hoped that Jeffrey's salary will eventually be reimbursed by federal War on Poverty grants.

In other action agency members agreed that each governmental unit involved in the agency will be allotted a seat on the board of directors.

In addition, other members of the board of directors will be

drawn from the Council of Social Planning of Alameda County, the Central Labor Council of Alameda County, the Oakland Chamber of Commerce, the Negro Leadership Council of Alameda County, the Mexican-American Unity Council, the Alameda County Human Relations Commission, Parochial schools in the county, the United Bay Area Council of Indian Affairs and three members from a proposed Citizens' Advisory Committee to the Economic Opportunity Agency.

All of the organizations except the still-to-be-formed citizens' committee will be asked to name delegates to the board of directors before the agency's next meeting — scheduled for March 30.

It was agreed that a 15-member executive committee will be created. It will be composed of

the chairman of the board of directors, three representatives from cities, three from school districts, three members of the citizens' committee, the representatives of the county, state, Council of Social Planning, Central Labor Council and one director elected at large to the executive committee.

City representatives to the executive committee are to be named by the Alameda County Mayors' Conference. School representatives are to be chosen by the Alameda County School Boards Association.

Hannon was authorized to appoint a temporary chairman of the proposed citizens' committee. The temporary chairman will help form the citizens' committee. It is to include representatives of community groups which will be receiving War on Poverty funds.

TRAINED TALENT

Piedmont to Recruit for

Poverty War

PIEDMONT — The Piedmont City Council is going to offer the services of the city's talented citizens to President Johnson's War on Poverty.

The council decided last night to recruit some of the city's technically trained personnel for this work after an appearance by a representative of the Alameda County Economic Opportunity Agency.

This is the agency appointed to coordinate all War on Poverty activities within the county.

The council has asked the city attorney's staff to draw up an agreement which would enable the appointment of personnel to the agency.

In other action, the council suggested that the manufacturer of a litter can with a disposable lining provide the city with a sample.

Representatives of the Piedmont Garden Club appeared to urge the council to obtain the receptacles.

The council suggested that a sample can could be placed on a busy downtown street for a trial period to test its effectiveness.

An 800 bid for new steps at the city swimming pool on Magnolia Avenue between Bonita and Hillside Avenues was accepted.

The council also accepted a \$2,000 bid for redevelopment and beautification of Cherry Walk in Piedmont Public Park, and a \$12,799 bid for a storm sewer on Artuna Avenue.

TR E APR 2 - 1965

2 County Poverty War Aides Named

Alameda County supervisors have named two county officials to act as their representatives in local war on poverty programs.

Supervisors yesterday designated Chief Probation Officer Lorenzo S. Buckley to be the county's representative on the board of directors of the recently formed Economic Opportunity Agency of Alameda County.

And Francis B. Jeffrey, executive secretary of the Economic Opportunity Agency, was named by the supervisors to represent the county at meetings of the Fremont-Newark-Union City Local Community Action Group.

Bureaucracy Called Top

Job Gainer

THE JUL 20 1965

Federally financed War on Poverty programs in Alameda County were described today as "creating more jobs for bureaucracy than to relieve poverty."

The anti-poverty effort was criticized broadly before the Alameda County Board of Supervisors as being sloppily run and at too high a cost.

Francis Jeffrey, executive secretary of the county's Economic Opportunities Agency, admitted to the board that his agency is not successfully doing what it was set up to do—coordinate various local programs.

FIVE GROUPS

He said five different "community action groups," in Oakland, Berkeley, Fremont, Hayward and Livermore, are individually doing their own planning, with no over-all agency supervising or coordinating the job.

Jeffrey, making a periodic report to the board, said he will ask the state to ask federal officials to require more over-all coordination in such programs to avoid further "fragmentation."

Jeffrey estimated that about \$3 million will be spent in Alameda County this year on anti-poverty programs, plus the \$13.5 million which will be spent over a two-year period in the Job Corps training program at Camp Parks.

Supervisor Emanuel Razeto noted that the five community action groups have their own staffs.

"It seems like we're creating more jobs for bureaucracy than to relieve poverty," he said. "It doesn't trickle down to the poor people."

'TOO MANY GENERALS'

Supervisor Leland Sweeney said there were "too many generals. "Everybody's running to the money grab-bag."

Joining in on the general criticism of the anti-poverty effort, Supervisor Kent D. Pursel said some \$80 million will be spent in the county this year, "presumably to help people."

He included a \$1-million Ford Foundation grant, the United Bay Area Crusade and the county's \$65-million welfare budget, along with the federal aid.

"These are well-intentioned people who never had so much money before," he said. "They seem to be groping, searching for ways to spend money."

Roberto Acosta to Head Poverty Unit

AUG 1 - 1968

HAYWARD — Roberto Acosta, 35, of Fremont, second in command of the Southern Alameda County Economic Opportunity Organization

last night was named executive director.

Acosta succeeds Ricardo Ontiveros who started work today as executive director of the new Careers Development Agency in Oakland.

Acosta, a native of El Paso, Texas, was administrative assistant to Ontiveros in the Tri-Cities Community Action Program and has held that position since last year.

Prior to coming to Fremont he was field representative and training coordinator for the Sacramento Community Welfare Council.

Directors of the organization have not set his salary but the range for the position is \$12,000 to \$14,400 a year.

The board asked for a postponement of a meeting scheduled by the county board of supervisors for Aug. 6 which was called to consider the formation of a new delegate agency to administer the poverty program in Southern Alameda County.

Directors of the poverty unit asked that the meeting be postponed until studies can be completed on the possibility of establishing "target area boards."

These boards would be set up in Hayward, Livermore and Pleasanton to administer the poverty programs in the individual communities but would be responsible to the Southern Alameda County Community Action Agency.

At the same time the directors are seeking local control of the neighborhood Youth Corps program and want to take over the responsibility of administering the \$670,000 grant which is now administered by the county through the human relations commission and the supervisors.

Poverty Groups Voice Threats

AUG 6 1969

Cursing, shouting "power to the people," and raising clenched fists, various poverty groups yesterday demanded that the Alameda County Board of Supervisors do something to solve their problems.

The verbal abuse became so hot that Board Chairman John D. Murphy and Supervisor Robert Hannon walked out of the hearing in disgust.

At issue was whether Alameda County would be willing to coordinate the U.S. Department of Labor's Title

1-B Manpower Programs which, through the Oakland Economic Development Council, Inc., (OEDCI) and similar groups in Berkeley and Southern Alameda County, administer \$3.6 million annually in training and job programs for the poverty areas.

Members of the OEDCI, the Black Caucus, a Chicano group from south county and others told the supervisors in plain talk that they'd better get involved or the whole county might go up in flames.

The Department of Labor

recently designated the county as a "community program area" and asked the county to provide leadership in the OEDCI program which has been bogged down in a power struggle over its control for many months.

OEDCI Director Percy Moore told supervisors that he would rather that the OEDCI be named the chief poverty agency in the county.

Barring that, he said, he was willing to have the county provide leadership in coordinating the activities of OEDCI

and the sister groups in Berkeley and South County.

Moore wanted the county to get the groups together for the purpose of naming a county wide manpower commission that would be controlled by OEDCI administrators who would have the say so on how the funds are distributed.

The county, however, preferred to have the manpower commission more broadly based in its membership, with the OEDCI and its allied groups having only 7 votes on a 21 member board.

Frank Jeffrey, director of the county's Economic Opportunity Program, recommended that the county submit the matter to the Mayor's Conference for reaction. Supervisors took no action pending further study.

Several persons in the audience became angry after Supervisor Emanuel Razono quizzed Moore on "precisely how the \$36 million federal allocation this year was spent" and elicited from Moore that his annual salary was \$20,000 and that several of his deputies earned \$16,500 annually.